

Mr. Speaker, it disturbs me that some in this Congress would accuse this tribe of breaking a treaty that was made long before the Federal Government eliminated the Cherokees as a tribe altogether. Their story, like most tribes throughout the Nation, is one of astonishing perseverance and determination. To limit Federal funding on the grounds that the Cherokees have supposedly broken a treaty that was in fact abrogated by official Government policy is absolute ridiculous. Congress should allow this issue to be settled in tribal and Federal court. It should not impose opinions on the Cherokee Nation. To do so violates tribal sovereignty, ignores history, and misuses and abuses legislative authority. The Cherokees have not broken their treaties with the United States. It is the United States that has consistently violated its treaties with the Cherokee Nation.

HOUSING AND ECONOMIC RECOVERY ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2008

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, for several years, followers of the Austrian school of economics have warned that unless Congress moved to end the implicit Government guarantee of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, and took other steps to disengage the U.S. Government from the housing market, America would face a crisis in housing. This crisis would force Congress to choose between authorizing a taxpayer bailout of Fannie and Freddie, and other measures increasing Government's involvement in housing, or restoring a free market in housing by ending Government support for Fannie and Freddie and repealing all laws that interfere in housing. The bursting of the housing bubble, and the recent near-collapse in investor support for Fannie and Freddie has proven my fellow Austrians correct. Unfortunately, but not surprisingly, instead of ending the prior interventions in the housing market that are responsible for the current crisis, Congress is increasing the level of Government intervention in the housing market. This is the equivalent of giving a drug addict another fix, which will only make the necessary withdrawal more painful.

The provision giving the Treasury Secretary a blank check to purchase Fannie and Freddie stock not only makes the implicit Government guarantee of Fannie and Freddie explicit, it represents another unconstitutional delegation of Congress' constitutional authority to control the allocation of taxpayer dollars. While the Treasury Secretary has to file a report with Congress, the lack of any effective standards for the expenditure of funds makes it impossible for Congress to perform effective oversight on Treasury's expenditures.

H.R. 3221 also takes another troubling step toward the creation of surveillance state by creating a Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry. This Federal database will contain personal information about anyone wishing to work as a "loan originator." "Loan originator" is defined broadly as anyone who "takes a residential loan application; and offers or negotiates terms of a residential mort-

gage loan for compensation or gain." According to some analysts, this definition is so broad as to cover part-time clerks and real estate agents who receive even minimal compensation from "originators." Additionally, this database forced on industry will be funded by fees paid to the Federal banking agencies, yet another costly burden to the American taxpayers.

Among the information that will be collected from loan originators for inclusion in the Federal database are fingerprints. Madam Speaker, giving the Federal Government the power to force Americans who wish to work in real estate to submit their fingerprints to a Federal database opens the door to numerous abuses of privacy and civil liberties and establishes a dangerous precedent. Fingerprint databases and background checks have been no deterrent to espionage and fraud among governmental agencies, and will likewise fail to prevent fraud in the real estate market. I am amazed to see some members who are usually outspoken advocates of civil liberties and defenders of the fourth amendment support this new threat to privacy.

Finally, H.R. 3221 increases the Federal debt limit by \$800 billion. We are told that CBO has scored this bill at a cost of \$25 billion, but this debt limit increase belies that. The Federal Reserve has already propped up the housing and financial markets to the tune of over \$300 billion, and this raise of the debt limit indicates that the cost of this newest bailout will likely be even more costly. I am dismayed that my colleagues have not learned the lessons of the PATRIOT Act and Sarbanes-Oxley. Massive bills passed in knee-jerk reaction to crisis events will always be poorly written, burdensome and expensive to taxpayers, and destructive of liberty.

HONORING NATHAN TIPTON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Nathan Tipton of Blue Springs, Missouri. Nathan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1058, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Nathan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Nathan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Nathan Tipton for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

THE DAILY 45: A FAMILY'S HOUSING CRISIS ENDS WITH A GUN

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2008

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, the Department of Justice tells us that, everyday, 45 people, on average, are fatally shot in the United States. While most of the gun violence stems from crime, far too often a loaded weapon in the hands of an emotionally distraught individual leads to tragedy.

Such was the case, two days ago, when the economic impact of the nation's housing crisis took a toll on a Massachusetts family. In a moment of despair, 53-year-old Carlene Balderrama took her life with a gun on the day that her mortgage company was set to sell her foreclosed home.

Balderrama was a wife and mother of a young son whose desperation found relief at the end of the barrel of a gun. Her suicide shocked the small, quiet town of Taunton, a community with origins that stem from the birth of our nation. In a tragic twist, before she killed herself, Mrs. Balderrama faxed a note to her mortgage company saying, "By the time you foreclose on my house, I'll be dead." While any number of intervening forces could have made a difference, in an instant, a gun took away those options. My heart goes out to her family and her community on their loss.

Americans of conscience must come together to stop the senseless death of "The Daily 45." When will we say "enough is enough, stop the killing!"

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2008

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I was unable to have my vote recorded on roll No. 515 on Wednesday, July 23, 2008. Had I been present, I would have voted against the motion to adjourn.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF DOUG BISHOP

HON. DAVID DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2008

Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory and life of Sevierville City Administrator Doug Bishop, a true asset to the First Congressional District of Tennessee, who passed away Saturday, July 19, 2008.

Doug Bishop lived a life of service, entrepreneurship, and was known by all for his love and compassion to his wife Jane and their two daughters.

A great community leader, Doug Bishop served on numerous boards and committees and was honored as City Manager of the year by Tennessee City Managers Association.

His tireless work ethic, intelligence and dedication showed through his work for Sevierville.